

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-4, 7, 9-13, 16, 18-22, and 25, and 27-30 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 10, 19, and 28-30 being the independent claims. Claims 5-6, 14-15, and 23-24 were canceled in a previous amendment. Claims 8, 17, 26, and 31-33 are sought to be canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 9-11, 13, 16, 18-20, 22, 25, and 27-30 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Examiner Interview

The Examiner is thanked for his time during an interview on December 2, 2008 with Applicants' representative Omar Amin. Agreement was not reached in view of these discussions.

Allowed Claims

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 28 - 30 are allowed. Applicants have amended claims 28-30, but respectfully assert that these claims remain allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 9, 18, and 27 recite allowable subject matter, but are objected to as being dependent on a

rejected base claim. In view of the Amendments above and the Remarks presented below, Applicants assert that base claims, 1, 10, and 19, from which claims 9, 18, and 27, respectively, depend, are patentable over the applied references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 9, 18, and 27 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the Specification as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter because the phrase "computer usable medium" allegedly does not have proper antecedent basis in the Specification. In particular, the Examiner asserts that to overcome the objection:

an amendment to the specification is necessary constituting a non-exhaustive statement of what the phrases [sic] 'computer usable medium' would be as it would have been known to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, in order to verify that the terms [sic] 'computer usable medium' could not be taken in the context of non-statutory subject matter.

(Office Action, page 3).

Applicants respectfully assert that the term "computer usable medium" has antecedent in the Specification. For example, page 25, lines 15-17 of the Specification, as filed, provides antecedent basis for the term "computer usable medium."

Furthermore, Applicants have amended the claims that recite a computer usable medium, e.g., claims 19-22, 25, 27, and 30, to recite "a tangible computer program product." Accordingly, Applicants assert that claims 19-22, 25, 27, and 30 are defined within the boundaries of statutory subject matter. Applicants assert that such an

amendment is supported by the Specification, as filed. See, for example, page 25, lines 10-15.

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 9 and 17 for informalities. Applicants have amended claim 9 and have canceled claim 17. Accordingly, Applicants assert that the objection to the claims has been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 31-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Although Applicants continue to disagree with the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 31-33 only in order to expedite prosecution. Accordingly, Applicants assert that the rejection of claims 31-33 has been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 7-8, 10-12, 16-17, 19-21, and 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,925,595 to Whitledge et al. (hereinafter Whitledge), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,754,670 to Lindsay et al. (hereinafter Lindsay) and U.S. Patent No. 6,671,853 to Burkett et al. (hereinafter Burkett). Claims 4, 13, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Whitledge in view of Lindsay and Burkett, in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,665,709 to Barron (hereinafter Barron). Claims 31-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Whitledge in view of Lindsay and Burkett, in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,560,639 to Dan et al. (hereinafter Dan). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants have canceled claims 8, 17, 26, and 31-33. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of those claims have been rendered moot.

Differences exist between the applied references and the claimed embodiments of the present invention. For example, claim 1, as amended, recites the following:

modifying an object of said content stream,
comprising the step of:
 accessing an object pointer in said
document table within said content stream, wherein said
object pointer comprises a vtable pointer for accessing
instance methods and an attribute pointer for accessing
said object within said content stream.

Whitledge describes a method and system for content conversion of electronic data using data mining. User selected hypertext elements from hypertext documents are displayed on the user's device by converting the selected elements to a format that can be displayed on the user's device based on conversion preferences. See, Whitledge, Abstract. FIG. 2 of Whitledge shows a flow diagram that illustrates a method for content conversion. In response to a request for an original electronic document from a first network device, a content converter converts the original requested document into a converted document based on conversion preferences. The converted document is then transmitted to the first network device through a proxy server. See, Whitledge, Col. 8, lines 1-36.

However, Whitledge does not teach or suggest modifying an object including the step of accessing an object pointer that includes a vtable pointer and an attribute pointer. For example, Col. 23, lines 9-54 of Whitledge, which the Examiner alleges teaches or suggests the modifying step of now canceled claim 8, the subject matter of which is

included in claim 1, as amended, does not teach or suggest the modifying step as in claim

1. Col. 23, lines 9-54 of Whitledge describes the conversion of an electronic document so that it can be displayed by a PDA. The electronic document is converted based on stored preferences. As a result, the PDA receives a converted grayscale image that is reduced in size by 50%. This portion of Whitledge, however, does not teach or suggest the modification step recited in claim 1, as amended. For example, this portion of Whitledge does not teach or suggest accessing an object point that includes a vtable pointer and an attribute pointer. Furthermore, Applicants assert that no other portion of Whitledge teaches or suggests the modification step recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants assert that claim 1 is patentable over Whitledge.

Lindsay describes a computer system that provides a framework for mapping relational tables to object oriented classes. See, Lindsay, Abstract. FIG. 1 of Lindsay shows a relational database 10. Lindsay discloses a system that allows table 10 to be mapped into a class 12 by creating an object of type attribute for each column of table 10. See, Lindsay, Col. 3, line 57- Col. 4, line 11. However, Lindsay does not teach or suggest the modification step recited in claim 1. For example, Lindsay does not teach or suggest accessing an object pointer that includes a vtable pointer and an attribute pointer, as recited in claim 1. Thus, Applicants assert that claim 1 is patentable over Lindsay.

Burkett is directed to a technique with which documents encoded according to the XML notation, or a derivative thereof, can be efficiently processed by selectively streaming document fragments. See, Burkett, Abstract. The Examiner does not use Burkett to teach or suggest the modification step as recited in claim 1, as amended, nor

does Burkett teach or suggest the modification step. Therefore, Applicants assert that claim 1 is patentable over Burkett.

Thus, Applicants assert that claim 1 is patentable over Whitledge, Lindsay, and Burkett. Furthermore, Barron and Dan do not remedy the deficiencies of Whitledge, Lindsay, and Burkett. Accordingly, Applicants assert that claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentable over the applied references.

Moreover, independent claims 10 and 19, which recite similar distinguishing features as claim 1, and their respective dependent claims, are also patentable over the applied references for reasons similar to those described above with respect to claim 1. Thus, Applicants request that the rejections of claims 1-4, 7, 10-13, 16, 17, 19-22, and 25, and 26 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

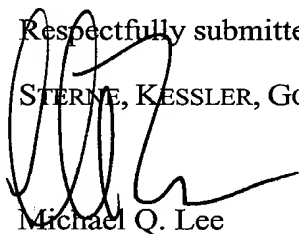
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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